

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Niculo STEINRISSE

Group Art Unit: 3679

Appln. No. : 10/598,011

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed : August 15, 2006

Confirmation No.: 9108

For : TOOTH PROFILE OF A SPLINE SHAFT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report, dated September 3, 2004, conducted in International Patent Application No. PCT/CH2004/000089, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the Examiner cited:

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,720,102 cited as an "X" category document (i.e., particular relevance), as a "Y" category document (i.e., cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when combined with one or more other such documents), and as an "A" category document (i.e., general state of the art). The Examiner identified col. 5, lines 18 – 61, claim 5 and the figures as relevant to claims 1 – 4, 6 and 9 as an "X" category document, relevant to claims 7 and 8 as a "Y" category document, and relevant to claims 5 and 8 as an "A" category document;
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,243,874 cited as a "Y" category document (i.e., cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when combined with one or more other such

documents). The Examiner identified the abstract and the figures as relevant to claims 7 and 8;

(3) U.S. Patent No. 5,180,043 cited as an "X" category document (i.e., particular relevance) and as an "A" category document (i.e., general state of the art). The Examiner identified col. 4, line 62 – col. 5, line 8 and the figures as relevant to claims 1, 2 and 4 as an "X" category document and relevant to claims 3, 5 and 9 as an "A" category document. Moreover, for the Examiner's convenience, Applicants submit herewith a copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,305,943 A published April 26, 1994, which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. patent family member of the above-cited U.S. Patent; and

(4) U.S. Patent 3,364,768 A cited as an "X" category document (i.e., particular relevance) and as an "A" category document (i.e., general state of the art). The Examiner identified col. 6, lines 54 – 69 and figure 8 as relevant to claims 1 – 3 and 5 as an "X" category document and relevant to claim 9 as an "A" category document.

The following documents were cited in an International Preliminary Examination Report, dated October 4, 2006, conducted in International Patent Application No. PCT/CH2004/000089, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. A copy of the English-language report is provided for the Examiner's convenience. In particular, the Examiner cited:

- (5) U.S. Patent No. 5,720,102, which corresponds to item (1) discussed above;
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 5,243,874 which corresponds to item (2) discussed above;
- (7) U.S. Patent No. 5,180,043 which corresponds to item (3) discussed above; and
- (8) U.S. Patent 3,364,768 which corresponds to item (4) discussed above.

Each of the above-cited documents are listed on the enclosed completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration be returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

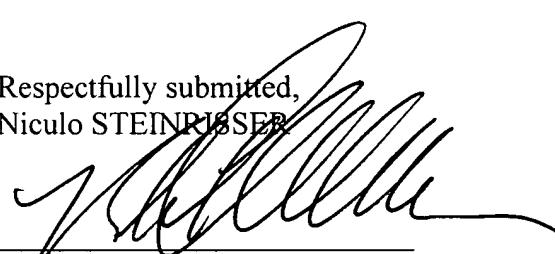
Moreover, copies of the non-U.S. patent documents are being submitted herewith. However, pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the cited/listed U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications are not enclosed herewith. Moreover, a copy of the International Search Report and has previously been submitted and is not being submitted herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

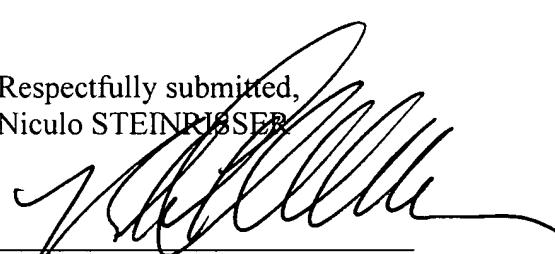
Applicant notes that while this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months from the filing date, Applicant has not received a first action on the merits from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed documents are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3).

However, if a first action on the merits has mailed prior to the filing date of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant hereby authorizes Commissioner to charge any fees necessary for the consideration of the documents cited herein to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Niculo STEINRISER


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